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IN THE U. S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: SCHROEDER, T. et al

) Group Art Unit: 3611

SERIAL NO.: 09/663,030

FILED: SEPTEMBER 15, 2000

) Examiner: DePumpo, D.

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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

In response to the office action mailed on November 7, 2001 in regard to the above identified U.S. Patent Application, Applicants request reconsideration of the rejections in view of the following remarks.

REMARKS

Procedural Posture

Claims 1 - 25 are pending in the application. Claims 10 - 25 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1 - 9 stand finally rejected. In particular, Claims 1, 2 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Taig (4,655,092). Furthermore, Claims 3 - 8 stand finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taig in view of Brosh et al and further in view of Buhl, et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the above rejections for the following reasons.

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